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COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONThis drawing is a reproduction of
the Original on a reduced scale.

Fig.1.

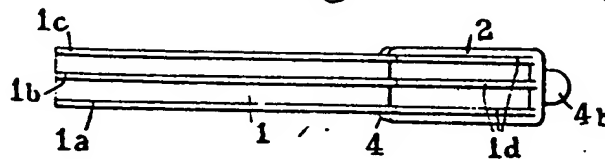


Fig. 2.

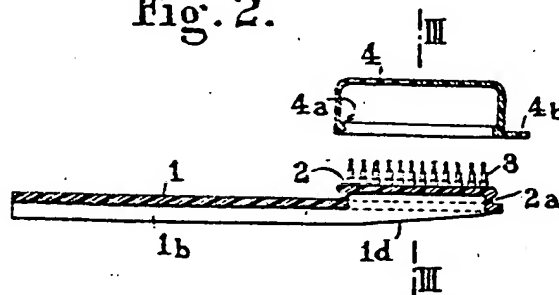


Fig. 3.

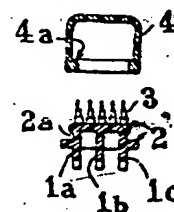


Fig. 4.

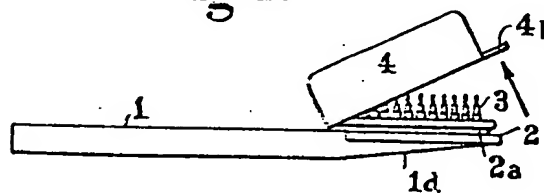


Fig. 5.

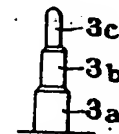


Fig. 6.

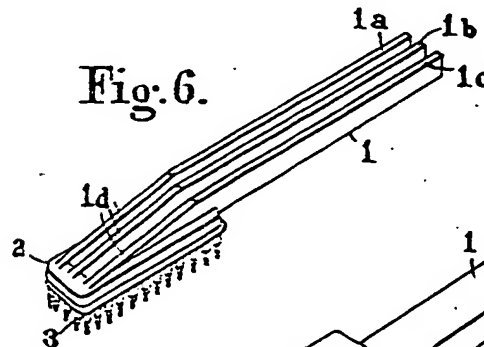
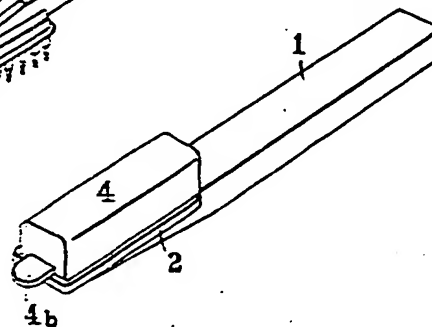


Fig. 7.



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PATENT SPECIFICATION

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SCIENTIFIC LIBRARY

APR 10 1959

U. S. PATENT OFFICE

Class at Acceptance:—Class 19, A(1A : 3C : 3G : 9 : 11):

International Classification:—A46b.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Tooth Brush.

We, G.O.L., SOCIÉTÉ À RESPONSABILITÉ LIMITÉE, a Body Corporate duly organized according to the French laws, of 80, Avenue Foch, Paris, (Seine), France, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:

This invention relates to a hygienic tooth-brush intended more particularly for travellers who do not want to trouble themselves with a tooth-brush, a tooth-brush case and a separate container for the tooth-paste.

It is an essential object of this invention to provide a tooth-brush of relatively small dimensions and low cost.

It is another object of this invention to provide a tooth-brush adapted to be sold or distributed together with a reserve of tooth-paste.

According to the present invention a tooth-brush made entirely of flexible plastic material comprises a handle, a head and bristles extending from the head, wherein the handle, head and bristles are formed as an integral moulding, and wherein the handle and head are provided with a continuous, longitudinal, reinforcing rib.

According to another feature of this invention, the tooth-brush is provided with a cover adapted to protect the bristles and to contain a certain quantity of tooth-paste.

The tooth-brush may be adequately sterilized and thus ready for immediate use at any time provided that some water is available to the user for rinsing purposes.

The relatively reduced dimensions and cost of the tooth-brushes are such that one or more tooth-brushes manufactured in accordance with this invention may be delivered to the consumers either through an automatic distributing machine or through any other suitable sales system, the used brushes

being subsequently thrown away.

The tooth-brushes can easily be sterilized during the manufacturing steps, before packing them, so that they can be delivered for sale and used under the best possible conditions of hygiene; thus, a transparent plastics wrapper may be used and so formed as to protect the brush against any contact with contaminating media and/or objects until it is about to be used.

In order to afford a clearer understanding of the present invention and of the manner in which the same may be carried out in the practice, reference will now be made to the attached drawing forming part of this specification and illustrating diagrammatically, by way of example, a typical embodiment of a tooth-brush manufactured in accordance with this invention. In the drawing:—

Figure 1 is a plan view from above of the complete tooth-brush.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same brush with the cover of the brush separated therefrom.

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view, the section being taken upon the line III—III of fig. 2.

Figure 4 is a side elevational view showing the manner in which the cover may be removed from the tooth-brush.

Figure 5 is an elevational view showing on a considerably larger scale a separate bristle.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the tooth-brush alone, and

Figure 7 is another perspective view showing the tooth-brush provided with its cover.

The handle 1, the head 2 provided at one end of this handle 1 and the bristles 3 carried by the head 2 are moulded as an integral unit of plastics or like material. The bristles 3 projecting from the head 2 have substantially the configuration shown on a larger scale in fig. 5 and are characterized

[Price 3s. 6d.]

by a certain flexibility corresponding to that of conventional tooth-brush bristles; this feature may be obtained for example by providing a straight element of progressively reduced diameter from the root to the tip of the bristle as shown in fig. 5; thus, the straight sections 3a, 3b and 3c have a progressively reduced diameter from root to tip. The handle 1 of the tooth-brush is formed with a number of longitudinal ribs or fins 1a, 1b and 1c adapted to stiffen the handle. The portions of these ribs or fins extending from the inner end to the free end of the head 2, as shown at 1d, are of progressively reduced height. Preferably, the height of the longitudinal ribs 1a, 1b and 1c is substantially equal to half the width of the handle 1.

When the tooth-brush is not being used, a cover 4 is fitted on the head 2. This cover 4 contains a charge of tooth-paste (not shown) and is of the snap-fitting type. This feature is obtained by forming along the edge of the cover 4 an inner beading 4a adapted to engage a groove 2a formed along the lateral surface of the plate 2, as shown more particularly in figs. 2, 3 and 4 of the drawing. Thus, by simply pressing the cover 4, the latter will fit in a perfectly fluid-tight manner on the head 2. A lug 4b formed integrally with the cover 4 facilitates the removal and refitting of the cover.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A toothbrush made entirely of flexible

plastic material and comprising a handle, a head and bristles extending from the head, wherein the handle, head and bristles are formed as an integral moulding, and wherein the handle and head are formed with a continuous, longitudinal, reinforcing rib.

2. A toothbrush as claimed in claim 1 wherein the height of the rib adjacent the head is progressively reduced towards the free end of the head.

3. A toothbrush as claimed in either claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the bristles are of progressively diminishing cross-section from root to tip.

4. A toothbrush as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein the bristles are protected by means of a detachable plastic cover.

5. A toothbrush as claimed in claim 4 wherein an annular beading is formed on the cover for snap engagement with an annular groove formed in the head.

6. A toothbrush as claimed in claim 5 wherein the cover contains a charge of toothcleaning material.

7. A toothbrush substantially as described herein with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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